

Serial No. 09/724,730



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*Mila T. Kasan*  
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Case No. 4443DI # 7  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Paul D. Grossman

Serial No: 09/724,730

Art Unit: 1655

Filed: November 28, 2000

Examiner: J. Einsmann

Title: PROBE / MOBILITY MODIFIER COMPLEXES FOR MULTIPLEX  
NUCLEIC ACID DETECTION

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.111**  
**TO THE OFFICE ACTION MAILED FEBRUARY 9, 2001**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Dear Sirs:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed February 9, 2001 (paper no. 4), the applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in light of the following remarks.

**I. REMARKS**

Claims 1-12 (as renumbered by the examiner) are pending. The pending claims are presented in the attached Appendix.

**Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102**

At paragraph 3, the examiner has rejected claims 1-3, 5, and 7-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Norton *et al.*, Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry, 3(4): 437-455 (1995) ("Norton"). The rejection is respectfully traversed in light of the following remarks.

A. The Rejection. In her rejection, the examiner states that:

"Specifically, Norton *et al.* teach PNA probes labeled with staphylococcal nuclease bound to a portion of a target sequence. The staphylococcal nuclease bound to the PNA probe is a tail which would effect the mobility of the PNA tag complement to